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City of Wichita Falls Wins Financial Reporting Excellence Award

Wichita Falls, Texas – Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced that the City of Wichita Falls is the latest local government to achieve specific transparency goals through the Comptroller's Transparency Stars program. The City recently met the Comptroller's Transparency Star goal for Traditional Finance, and is now been recognized with two additional stars in the areas of Debt Obligations and Public Pensions. The Comptroller's program recognizes entities for their outstanding efforts in making their spending and revenue information available and for whose websites show visual and narrative detail on outstanding debt, tax-supported debt obligations, historical bond elections, public pensions, and more.

In regard to earning the Texas Comptroller's Star for Debt Obligations, Comptroller Hegar said, "By providing taxpayers with meaningful financial data in addition to visual tools and analysis of its revenues and expenditures along with essential debt information in a variety of formats, the City of Wichita Falls has shown a true commitment to Texas taxpayers. This effort achieves the goals set by our Transparency Stars program. I am pleased to award the City of Wichita Falls a star for its accomplishments."

In regard to earning the Texas Comptroller's Star for Public Pensions, Comptroller Hegar said, ""The City of Wichita Falls should be congratulated for its ongoing commitment to greater public trust. This effort achieves the goals set by our Transparency Stars program. Public pension transparency is increasingly important to Texas taxpayers. With this achievement, [name of entity] has shown itself to be a leader in responsible fiscal management."

The Comptroller's office launched the Transparency Stars program in March 2016 to recognize cities, counties, school districts and special purpose districts making important strides toward greater government transparency. After receiving a Traditional Finances star, local entities can go on to apply in other areas, for up to five stars:

- Traditional Finances
- Contracts and Procurement
- Economic Development
- Public Pensions
- Debt Obligations

For more on the program, including specific guidelines and information on how to apply, visit the Comptroller's Transparency Stars website.